

Date: 10/11/2012

The Honorable Barack H. Obama

President of the United States

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

First, I would like to congratulate you on your win and wish you the very best over the next four years. I hope in your work, you will help all American people, those at home and those abroad.

I am writing to you as a mother, who has always taught her sons to reach for the stars, that anything you dream is possible if you work hard for it. Today, I sit here writing to you and asking myself, did I teach them wrong? Should I have told them to accept living in an oppressive country?

My beautiful young son, Tagi currently sits in jail in Bahrain he is being accused of terror act and being held for 60 days pending investigation without being allowed to have a lawyer present during this investigation . Mr. Obama, he is an innocent man, innocent of the charges against him. My heart is broken as I had to listen to how he was beaten and tortured. Tagi was kidnapped from my apartment in the middle of the night by seven masked men in civilian clothes and one police officer without an arrest warrant being shown to me or to Tagi. They kidnapped my son in front my eyes and I couldn't do anything, I couldn't move from my bed. When they reached the door Tagi turned his head to look at me for the last time. Our eyes connected and without exchanging words, I knew that Tagi wanted to make sure that I haven't been harmed. After they left with my son I went everywhere asking about him, no police station or hospital had knowledge of his whereabouts. I later found out that Tagi was taken by the CID. Almost 22 hours later Tagi called me from an unknown phone number, Tagi's first word was mum. I couldn't hold my tears anymore, for the first time I hear Tagi speaking like a child who was frightened, confused and worried! Tagi told me "Mum, I was tortured, I was beaten, I was forced to confess on something that I did not do! They blind folded me, forced me to stand on one leg during the investigation and started hitting me on places like my back, lower back, my shoulders, and chest!

They verbally abused me, and threatened to rape me and bring you here to be raped as well.”, the phone call ended.

When the phone call ended, I was shocked and started crying, I couldn't believe this was happening to my son . Why has his human rights not been preserved?

I talked to the American embassy in Manama, and they visited Tagi in prison. After that they arranged a meeting with me. At first I thought finally justice will be on Tagi's side. However, after holding that meeting I found out that the consular section of the embassy could not do anything but observe, and try to make sure his human rights are being meet. Tagi, suffers from a stomach ulcer and needs to be in a special diet so that he could maintain a healthy status, he also fell ill during the first week of his arrest and was not taken care of medically and the consular section have been informed but they are yet to do anything about it.

Let me tell you about my precious boy. Tagi was born in New Haven in Connecticut. From the moment I laid eyes on him, I knew Tagi was special boy. Tagi lived a normal childhood like any child of his age. Tagi is an intelligent child; he attended school in an early age. I didn't have hard time with him, he did his school work without me asking him. All teachers praised him for his grades and respectful personality. Tagi has a happy and fun personality, he loves to put smiles on people faces. Every time a new comedy movie is released he would be the first one in line to see it in the cinema. When he comes home his hands are full of grocery even if I did not ask him to bring any. Tagi likes to help around the house, fixing kitchen cabinets, changing light bulbs and taking the car to the garage. Tagi liked everything clean and neat, he wouldn't wear clothes without ironing them. Tagi's closet is a mirror to his personality, it is clean and everything has its own specific place, my son does not like chaos. Tagi takes good care of his health, he plays various sports such as football and tennis. He takes good care of his body as he goes to the gym daily, Tagi does not smoke and cant stand to be with smokers, he feels uncomfortable and sick whenever he smells smoke.

My Tagi is the heart and soul of my house. He always stands by my side, specially when I got divorced from his father. At a time where I was constantly in tears and thinking about my children future. Tagi stood firm, and when he was 15 years old, I still remember what he said to me " mum, don't worry I will help you and I will never leave you alone" Tagi kept his word. I know that he would have loved to travel and work in the U.S.A, where he thought that any person who works hard could make something of himself, but he chose to stay here living in a country that wouldn't give him any kind of opportunity because of his nationality for one simple reason, and that is because he does not want to leave me. Tagi never turns down a request from his brothers and sisters, he loves them like a father is supposed to love his children rather than giving them brotherly love. One of Tagi's sisters love birds, so every year in her birthday Tagi

would buy her a bird, now she has seven different birds. I have a 12 years old daughter, she and Tagi have a secret language between them, they would talk in codes all day long then they laugh. Now she's always thinking of him, the other day she told me " mum, I feel orphaned without my brother."

President Obama, I hope from my heart that my letter reaches you. To take action, make sure Tagi's human rights are being preserved, ask for a fast fair trial for my son. I am sure if you do that, I will get to hold Tagi in my arms again as a free proud young man. I wish you the best of luck in your next four years as I am looking forward for your answer.

Sincerely yours,

Amina Maidan

Telephone: + (973) 34331064

Tagi's mother